## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

The National Association of State Conservation Agencies (NASCA) is hosting two listening sessions seeking input to aid in an evaluation of the nation's Conservation Delivery System. This project is being undertaken by NASCA via a contribution agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service. The two listening sessions will be held June 8-9 at Columbus, Ohio, and July 21-22 at Park City, Utah.

NASCA plans an analysis of how public agencies (federal, state and local), and private organizations deliver conservation assistance to landowners and land users. The analysis will lead to recommendations to make the collective delivery system more effective and efficient in putting conservation practices on the ground and in helping our working landowners and managers practice stewardship.

During the sessions, an emphasis will be placed on identifying needs and suggestions from landowners and service recipients regarding conservation services and programs. The meetings are structured to also capture significant regional differences in conservation issues, problems and solutions between the eastern and western parts of the country.

Each of these two-day workshops (two half-days) will include overview presentations and "roll up your sleeves" breakout sessions wherein attendees will identify major issues and prepare practical solutions. Approximately 100 representatives from national and regional conservation and recipient organizations will receive invitations from NASCA to attend each listening session. On-line registration will be available to invitees by the end of April. A registration fee of \$40 will be charged to cover limited meal costs. Hotel reservation information will be included in the on-line registration form.

A tentative agenda is outlined below for the listening sessions.

## Day One

9:00 am - Noon Registration

Noon Opening Luncheon 1:00 – 1:45 pm General Session

1:50- 4:45 pm Breakout Sessions (*break included*)

5:00 pm Day One Wrap Up

5:30 – 7:30 pm Reception

## Day Two

7:30 – 8:30 am Breakfast Warm Up 8:30 – 9:00 am General Session

9:00 – 11:30 am Breakout Sessions (*break included*)

11:30 am - Noon Day Two Wrap Up

Noon Adjourn

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